Message Text

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PAGE 01 JOHANN 01497 140604Z ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 MCT-01 COME-00 A-01 ACDA-07 /072 W

-----140610Z 058463 /13

O R 131430Z JUN 77
FM AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG
TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 6196
INFO AMEMBASSY PRETORIA
AMCONSUL DURBAN
AMCONSUL CAPT TOWN
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE JOHANNESBURG 1497

CAPE TOWN ALSO FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: SF, PINS, PINT

SUBJECT: POSSIBLE TERRORIST ATTACK IN JOHANNESBURG

- 1. THREE, POSSIBLY MORE, BLACKS ARMED WITH SOVIET MADE MACHINE PISTOLS AND HAND GRENADES ATTACKED VEHICLE YARD IN DOWNTOWN JOHANNESBURG THIS AFTERNOON (JUNE 13) KILLING TWO WHITE MECHANICS, CRITICALLY WOUNDING A THIRD. FOURTH WHITE ESCAPED INJURY AND SEIZED ONE OF THE ATTACKERS. POLICE ARRIVED AND KILLED TWO BLACKS IN SUBSEQUENT SHOOTOUT AND SEIZED OTHER.
- 2. JOHANNESBURG POLICE CONFIRMED WEAPONS OF SOVIET MANUFACTURE, SIMILAR TO THOSE SEIZED IN SOWETO EARLIER THIS YEAR.
- 3. THEORY ADVANCED BY PRESS (INCLUDING JOHANNESBURG STAR) WAS BLACKS WERE PREPARING ASSAULT ON JOHANNESBURG POLICE HEADQUARTERS, JOHN VORSTER SQUARE, WHEN THEY "CHICKENED OUT" AND OPENED FIRE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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ON VEHICLE YARD INSTEAD. JOHN VORSTER SQUARE IS ONLY SHORT DISTANCE AWAY BUT IT IS DIFFICULT TO IMAGINE THREE TERRORISTS ATTACKING POLICE HEADQUARTERS. WE ARE ATTEMPTING TO CONFIRM DETAILS, INCLUDING POLICE ASSESSMENT AS TO WHETHER THIS VIEWED BY THEM AS ISOLATED INCIDENT.

KIRBY

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X

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Concepts: TERRORISTS, POLICE FORCES

Control Number: n/a

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